

THE  
HISTORY OF  
THE  
CITY OF  
NEW YORK

BY  
JOHN B. HENNING

OF THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF ALBANY  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF CHEMUNG  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF HENRICKS  
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OF THE  
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON  
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OF THE  
COUNTY OF MONROE  
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COUNTY OF ORANGE  
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OF THE  
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COUNTY OF ROCKLAND  
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COUNTY OF SCHOENEBROOK  
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COUNTY OF ULSTER  
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COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER  
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COUNTY OF YAMONK  
AND  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF YONKERS

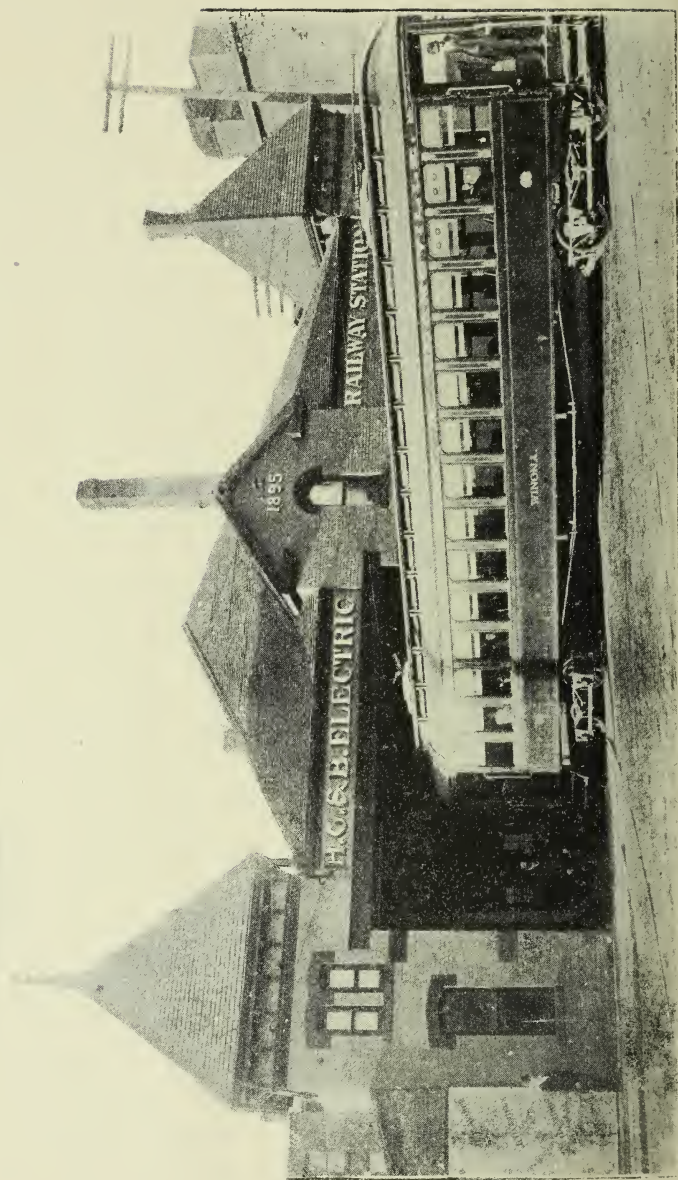








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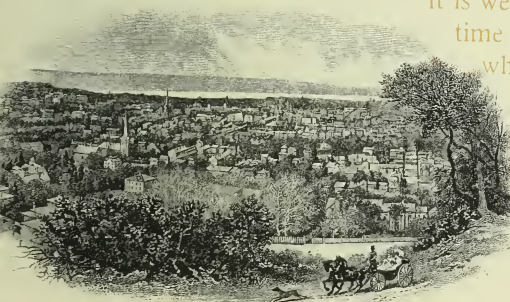
HAMILTON STREETCAR STATION - LAFAYETTE AVENUE

# In the Beginning



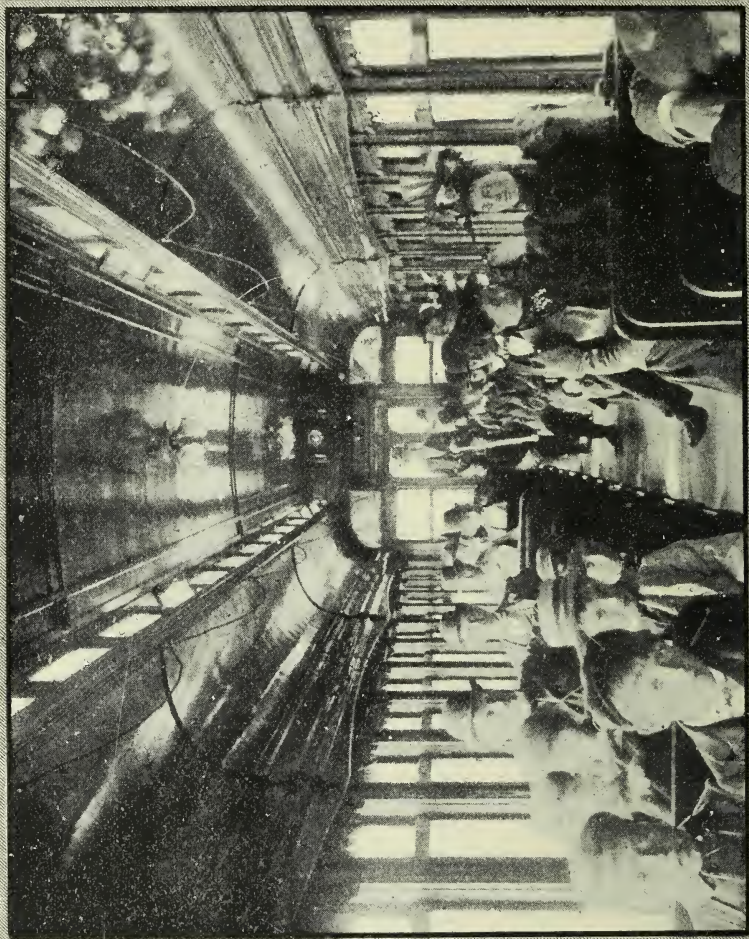
OLD HAMILTON

FOR years the land lying beneath the bluff of the Niagara peninsula has been far famed as The Fruit Garden of Canada. For years people have come from all parts of the country to visit and view the great garden in all its glory. Up to the time the Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Railway began operations, in October, 1894, there was no convenient way of taking the trip cheaply and comfortably. To C. J. Myles and some other business men of Hamilton, is due the credit for the enterprise that found its result in the completion of the road from Hamilton to Beamsville, a distance of 23 miles, all the way through the great and rich garden. Skirting the heavily wooded bluff on the one side and the blue waters of Lake Ontario on the other, with groves and fruit farms along either side all the way, the road at once became immensely popular with the pleasure seeking public. Its equipment is well nigh perfect, its time-tables most convenient and its officials most obliging and attentive. The traveller stopping over a couple of hours in Hamilton, can by street car, make prompt connection with the H. G. & B. cars, and "do" the fruit garden trip in time to continue his regular journey without any alteration in his holiday program. It is well worth his while. There is no time during the year, from early spring, when blossom covered trees fill the air with fragrance, till late fall, when frost tinted foliage adds new beauty, that the trip is not enjoyable.



THE CITY OF HAMILTON





A PASSENGER TRAIN IN CANADA

## On the Way

If the traveller is a picnic hunter he will take one of the large, open, airy cars; if he seeks solid comfort he will board the fine vestibuled electric coach Winona the most handsomely furnished and complete electric coach in Canada. He may take his choice at the big covered-in station at the corner of Main and Catharine streets. Down Main street to the city limits and along south past a row of towering poplars and in a minute the car speeds past St. Peter's Home for Incurables, with its beautiful, shaded grounds. Then to the mountain-

side and alongside the T. H. & B. railway, where, perchance steam and electric power may match speed for a short distance. But here at the turn along the mountain side where the tracks run parallel, the sightseer during the fruit gathering days of summer, will get his first

glimpse of the products of the fruit garden of the land. There at the siding will likely be seen express cars of the Michigan Central and C. P. R. railways being loaded from electric railway cars with

baskets and boxes of fruit of all descriptions. By morning they will

be distributed in cities and towns along the great railway lines all

over Ontario and Quebec. It is a daily occurrence, this fruit

shipping, and the farther one travels down the road the more

one sees of it. It is a feature of the district.



RAILROAD



FRUIT CARS





HAMILTON RESERVOIR, PAID



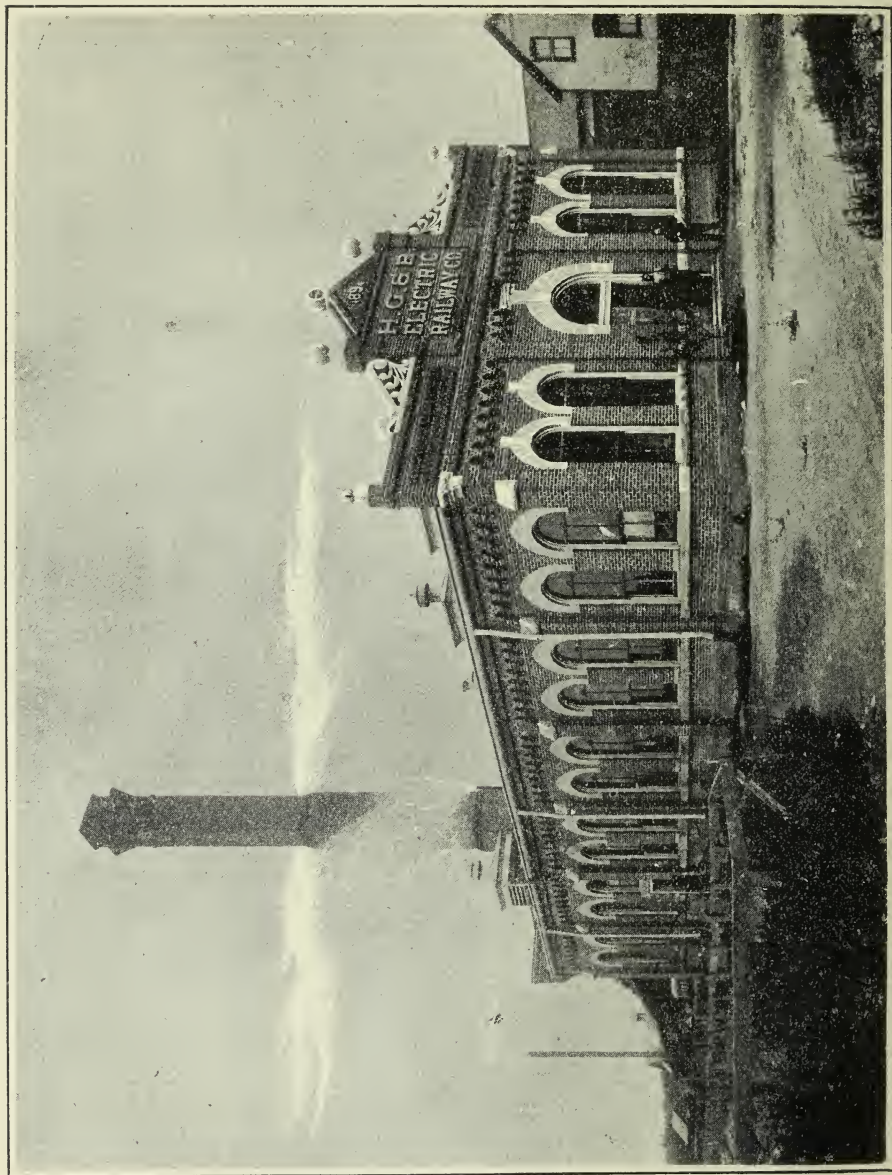
## Our First Pleasure Point

But the picnicker is on pleasure bent and fruit must be left for the minute. A five cent fare from the city reaches Reservoir park, just beyond the junction of the electric and steam roads. Too many people have imagined that this beauty spot is closed to the public. It is not, and there is no more beautiful spot anywhere for the quiet little picnic party than within its limits. Not only is it in itself beautiful, with its well kept walks, beautiful flower beds, and



ROAD TO RESERVOIR PARK

great artificial lake of purest water, pumped from the depths of Lake Ontario, miles away, but from its level a grand view of the valley below, the famous Hamilton Bay and Beach, and Lake Ontario itself stretches before the eye. An ideal spot for the picnic party, well worth the visit of the stranger, and withal easily and most economically reached. The attendants at the reservoir, all employees of the city, are most courteous, and gladly show visitors the working of the waterworks system as it is operated from that point. The working of the great standpipe used in case of fire is an interesting operation and one that will interest all lovers of mechanics and engineering. The standpipe is in rear of the reservoir.



TONY LEGER TOWER HOUSE.



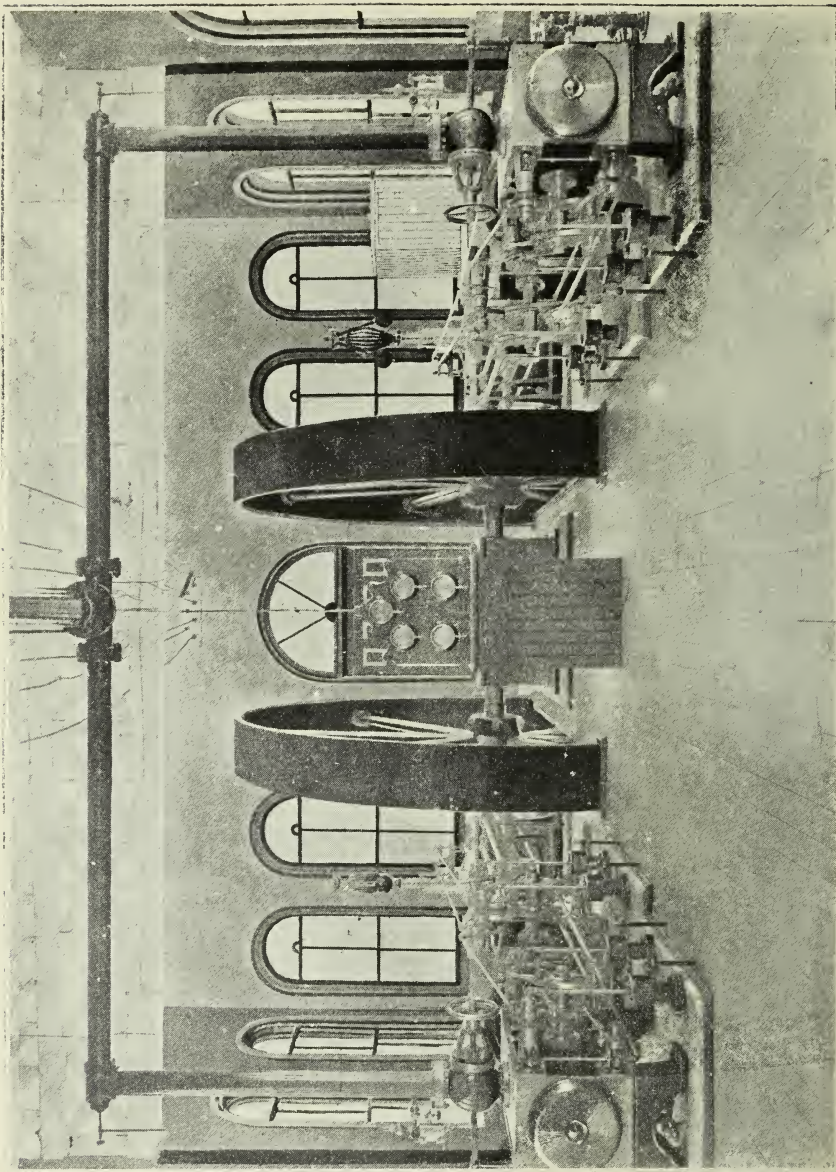


## The Historic Battle Field

But the gong rings and as our car speeds on the beautiful Reservoir Park is lost to view and we find ourselves rushing past the populous little Village of Bartonville and down grade into the valley of the Red Hill, so called from the color of the earth along its sides. Over the ravine we speed upon stone foundationed, steel bridgework, and to our right spreads out the great Albion ravine—a mighty indentation in the mountain side. Up the hill again and along the main travelled road with mountain towering on one side and sandy beach glistening on the other, we pass the famous Stony Creek battle ground where many Canadian heroes fell in defence of their homes and country. Farmers plough the soil that was once watered with their blood, and ever and anon when seasons are dry and the plow furrows deeply, the bones of dead soldiers are unearthed. The old Gage homestead in the upper corner is a relic of the war time, and it is on the spot pictured below that it is proposed to erect a monument in memory of the dead heroes. This part of the H. G. & B. route is one that deeply interests the historically inclined and there are those living in the vicinity of the battle field who are well versed in the anecdotal history of the famous battle. The old folks whose fathers took part in the scenes of those early times never tire of telling the now almost legendary tales they heard told when as children they sat at father's knee with some new found relic of the battle in hand, hearing the oft told stories o'er again. The Wentworth Historical Society has a fine lot of relics from the battle field.



STONY CREEK BATTLE FIELD, 1812



INTERIOR STONY CREEK POWER HOUSE





VINEYARD

## Where the Power Comes From - -

Perhaps the traveller has been wondering where we generate power to speed ourselves along over the smooth rails.

Here we have it, just beyond the battle field at the Village of Stony Creek. You may get off here and examine with your eyes if you will, but do not touch. There are the great engines which drive the enormous dynamos, ceaselessly running from the beginning of day to beginning of day, sending the mysterious electric current over the wires from end to end

of the line. At Stony

Creek, also, the adventurous spirit will find food for adventure climbing up the ravine over which



BRIDGE AT STONY CREEK

the railway passes. On the next page is the basin of the first fall away up the mountain side and again a view of a lower fall. The mountain side is heavily wooded, and wild flowers, ferns and mosses abound.

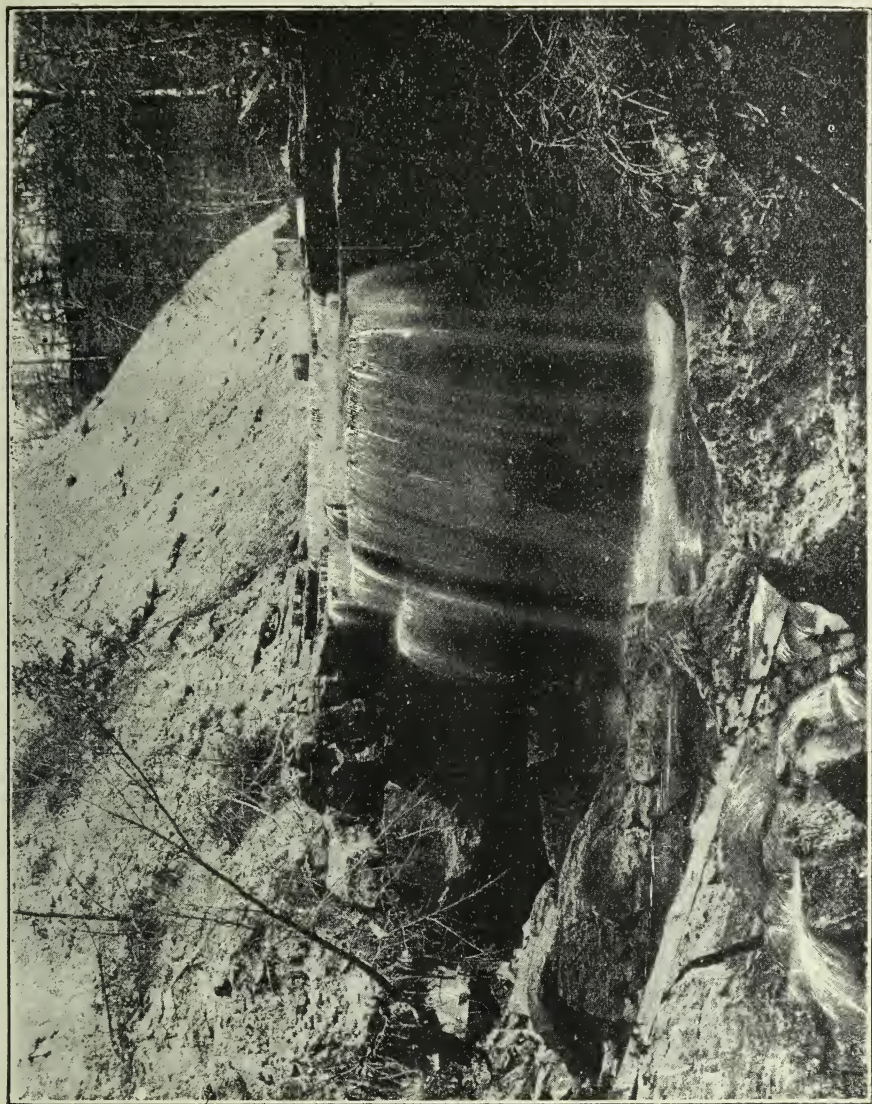


WOODLAND

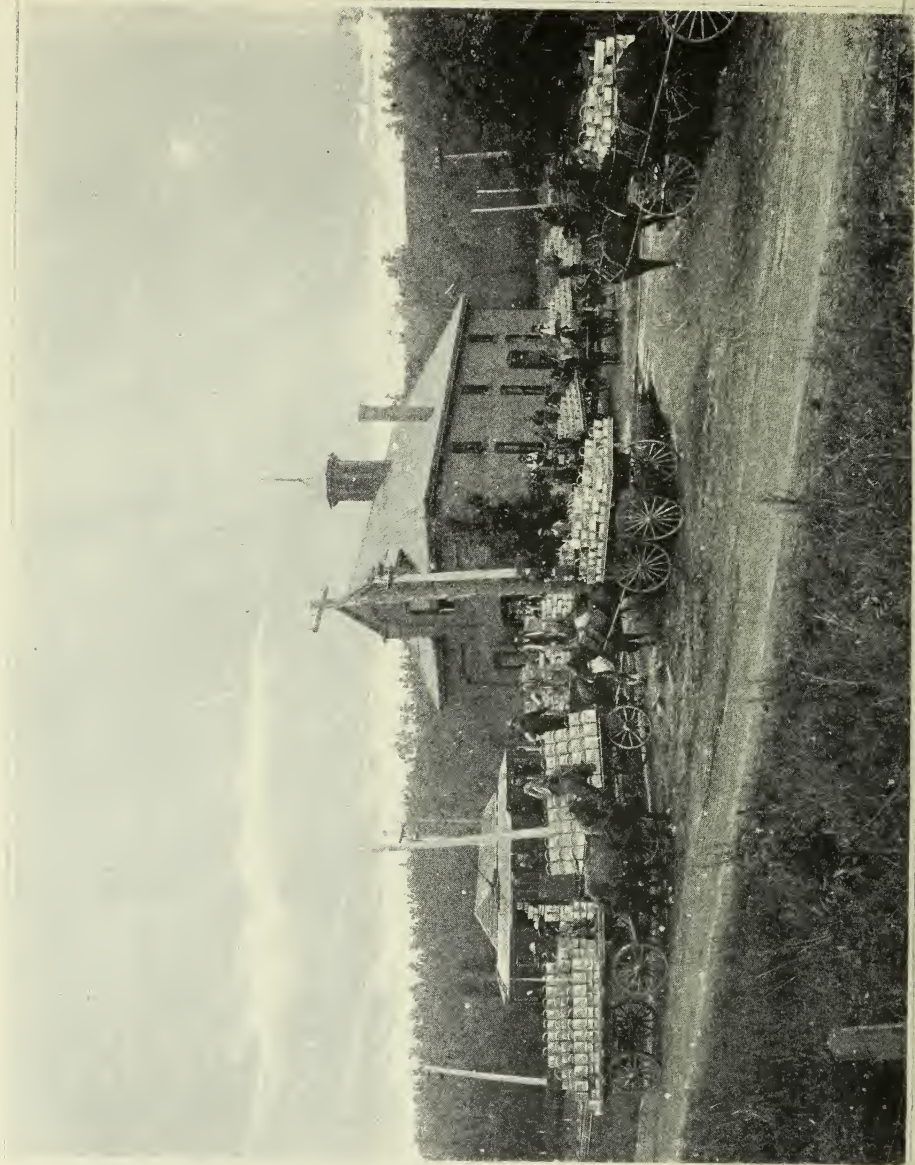


THE TROTT'S TUNNEL ROAD, STONY CREEK





LOWER FALLS - STONY CREEK

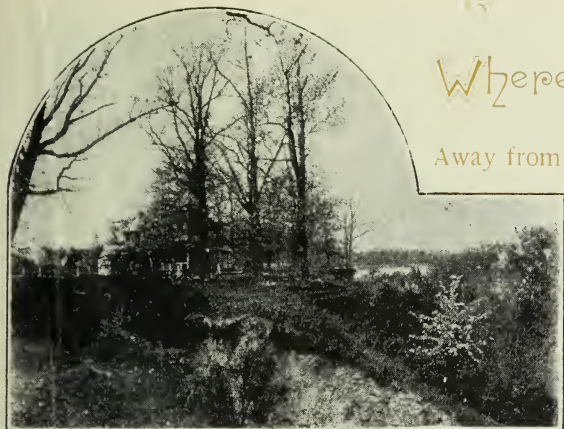


SHIPPING POINT AT HELDERLEIGH NURSERY—E. D. SMITH



## Where Peace Reigns

Away from Stony Creek, with mountain still on one side and lake on the other, we hurry without pausing past Fruitland Village, the immense nurseries of E. D. Smith and stop at Winona station. There, leaving the car, we turn down a shady road to the



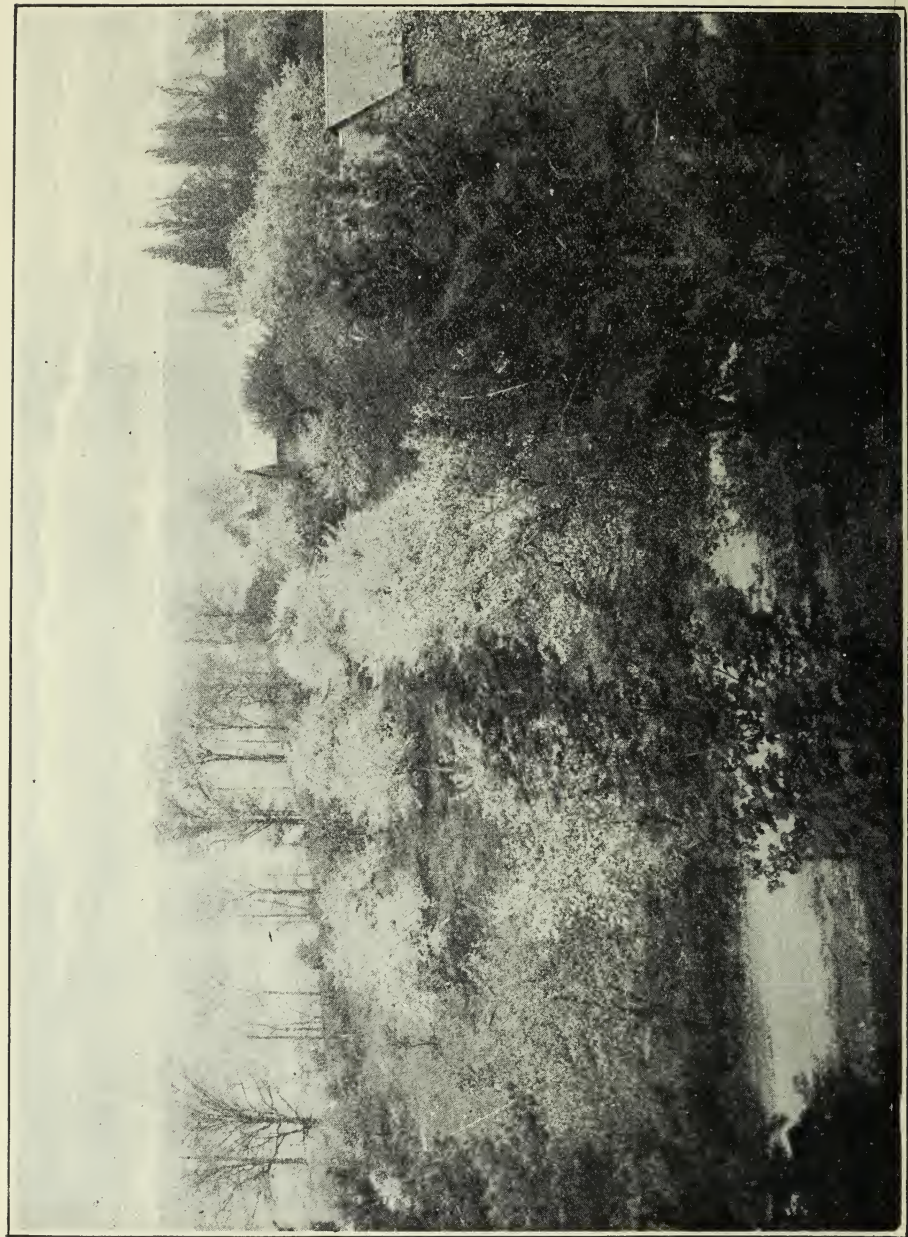
WINONA PARK ON LAKE SHORE.

lake shore and Winona Park—one of the havens of summer rest for the worn-out, heat distracted city man and his family. Cottages are there in plenty, and in shady groves the old folks sit and drink in fresh ozone from the lake breeze while down on the shore the little folks paddle about, their joy complete in the pleasure of the moment, their sunburned, heathful faces showing in marked contrast to their appearance as they left the school and its bugbear examinations but a few short weeks ago. The park has been open to the public but a short time—since the advent of the electric road—but as a family summer resort it is rapidly becoming very popular. From the station at Winona the grounds are reached by a short stage drive or a walk of a very few minutes.

Lake Ontario water is regarded by chemical analysts to be the purest of all the lower great lakes. Lake Ontario's sandy stretches of beach are admittedly the finest bathing spots to be found anywhere in the country.



GRAND HOTEL, WINONA PARK.

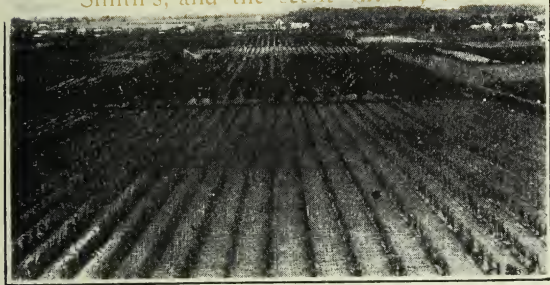


FRUIT ORCHARD IN BLOOM—WINONA PARK



## In the heart of It

It is from Stony Creek on that we find ourselves nearing the heart of the fruit district. Fruitland, Smith's, Winona and Grimsby, all these are fruit centers, and the pictures here represent but feebly the beauty of the scenes—the scientifically laid out orchards, the comfortable, commodious residences of which these pictured are good specimens. On the previous page we are shown the fruit shipping station at E. L. Smith's, and the scene there pictured is a common every day one

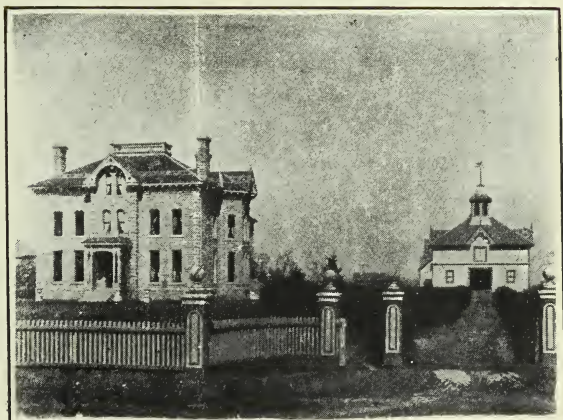


VIEW NEAR STONY CREEK

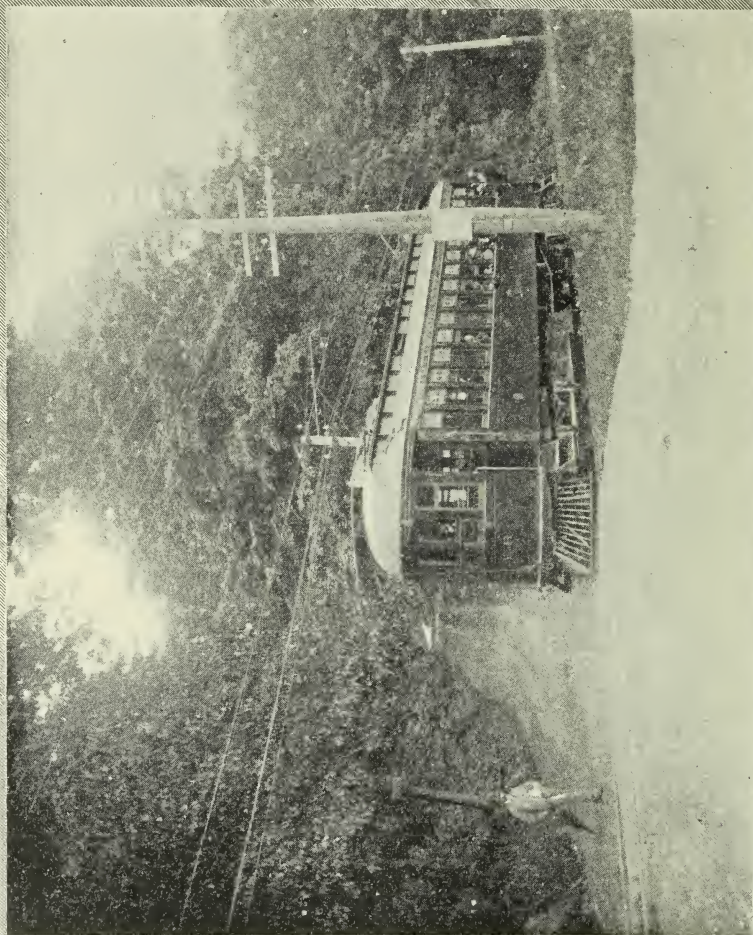
during the weeks of fruit harvesting. On the page opposite is a grand view, out a short distance below Winona, showing in the foreground an immense orchard and away beyond the heights of Woolverton mountain. In the lower corner here is the house of "California" Smith, one of the best known residents along the road who made his fortune in the gold boom of the far west and has come to live out a happy quiet life in the midst of the most favored spot of earth's green surface. Nowhere in the land will the fruit lover find more satisfying ground to travel.



RESIDENCE OF  
E. L. SMITH

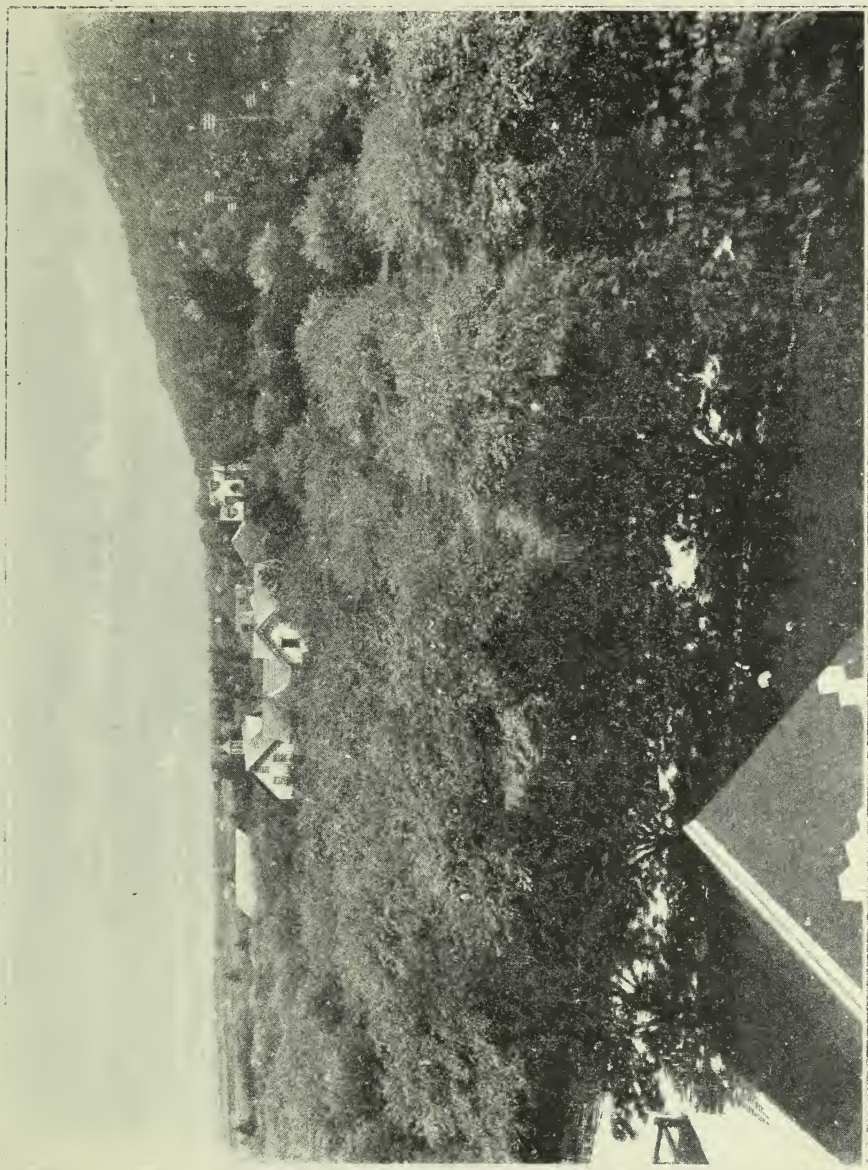


RESIDENCE OF CALIFORNIA SMITH



WINDMILL ON MONTECATI HILLS





WOOLVERTON'S ORCHARD IN BLOOM





WOODFORD MOUNTAIN ROAD NEAR THE TOP

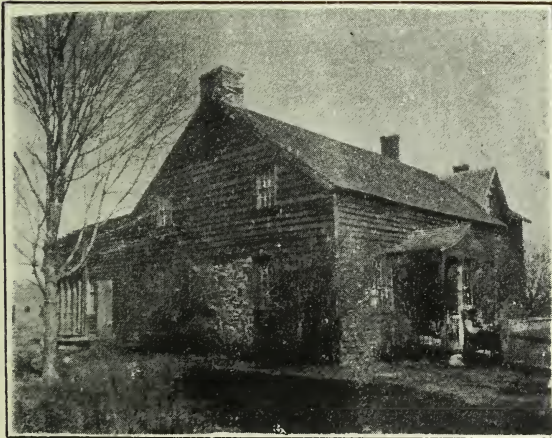


## Another Beauty Spot

A look at the picture on the previous page shows the handsome vestibuled car Winona at a stand still before a foliage-arched roadway. That roadway is the one leading, by many a turn and bend, to the top of the Woolverton mountain. On either side of it is the thick wood—mighty monarchs of the forest fastening their roots tight about the rocks beneath. In the woods, thick shaded, the birds sing, the tiny forest flowers lift their heads, and green mosses make a silken carpet over which one may walk. Here and there from beneath the rocks of the mountain side come bubbling springs of clearest ice-cold water and all around the scene is one that makes the stranger think that here, at least, the work of nature is as it ever was—untouched by man's improving hand.

On to the road again and up and up we travel by an easy grade, seeking the top. On the one side towers the rock built cliff; on the other we look down upon the tops of trees and houses in the distance. Down there along the main roadside is the house of Jasper Smith—a fine old fashioned residence, the age of which has long since passed the century. There not long ago in an attic, hidden under the rafters, was found a pair of ancient saddle bags and in them papers of a

hundred years or more ago—crown grants of tracts of land then marsh and forest, now orchard and vineyard. These old relics are treasured by Mr. Smith's family, being regarded as a sort of heirloom.



JASPER SMITH'S HOUSE, ST. LOUIS



VIEW FROM THE WOOD-CHIEF MOUNTAIN



## From the Dizzy Height

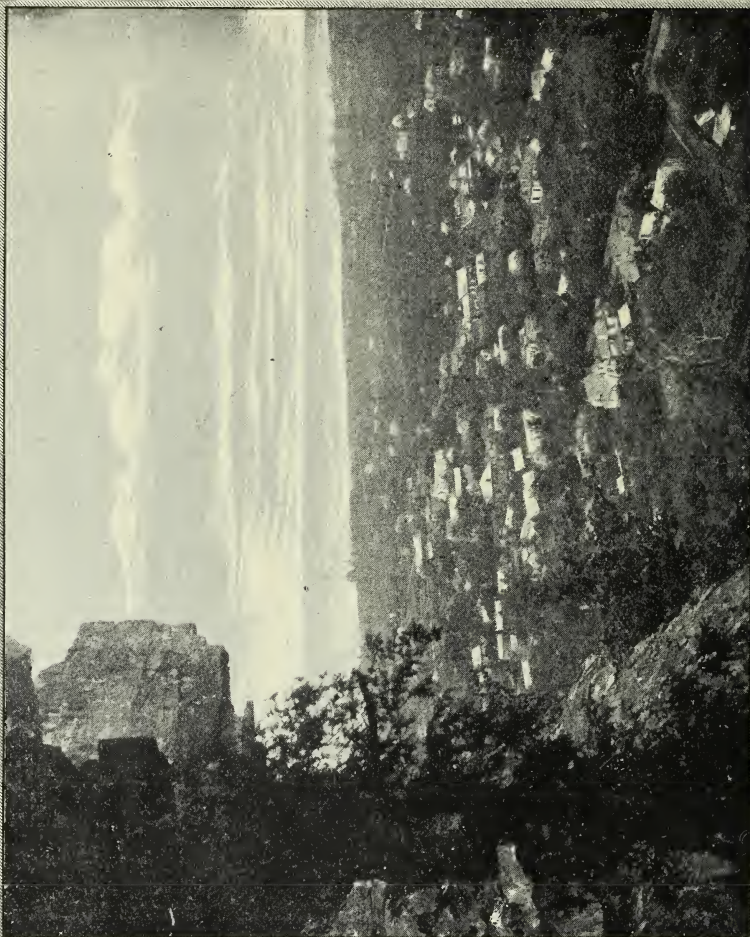
And now we turn around the cliff and are on the mountain top. There stretched before us is the whole fruit garden valley. Farm after farm, orchard after orchard, vineyard after vineyard, and beyond them all the water line of lake Ontario kissing the clouds where earth and sky meet. There is no climb anywhere that will better repay than this. To the lover of the beautiful in nature no description can do it justice. It must be partaken of to be appreciated. And, if the visitor happens along at the right season he will be entertained in the grove on the summit by the camp meetings which are often held there by the Free Methodists and others. If he doesn't come at the right time he can entertain himself by bringing his family or best girl and a lunch basket.

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Before we go any farther and before we reach our next surprise just for a minute stop and figure out the magnitude of this nation's fruit garden. Only an approximate statement can be secured of last season's output of fruit as no detailed record of shipments is kept by anyone in the district. E. D. Smith, the big shipper at Winona, has this to say of last year's business: "Taking what I shipped myself as a guide, I should judge there was about \$125,000 worth of fruit shipped from Winona station, C. P. R. and G. T. R., and there would be an equal quantity shipped from Grimsby, Beamsville and Jordan combined. Then I should think Hamilton must have absorbed in the neighborhood of \$150,000 worth of fruit. This makes a total of \$400,000. Now if we double this for the whole of the Peninsula I think it would be not far from the mark. This is not taking into account apples. I think this estimate is under rather than over the mark. Possibly the total would reach a million of dollars."

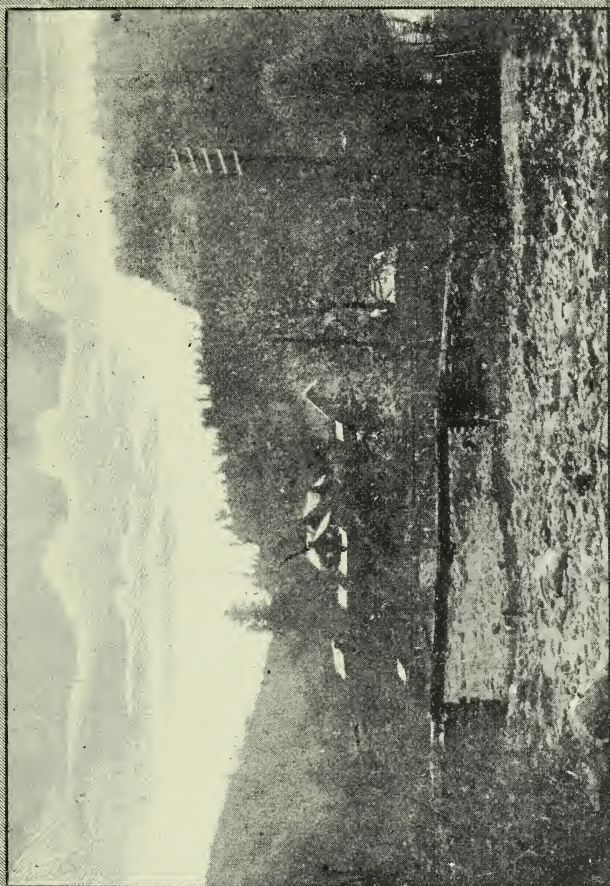
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The number of passengers carried last year over the H. G. & B. electric road was 274,114. The number of car miles travelled was 232,268.



POINT LOROUX, CHARENTAIS, MAR. 1915

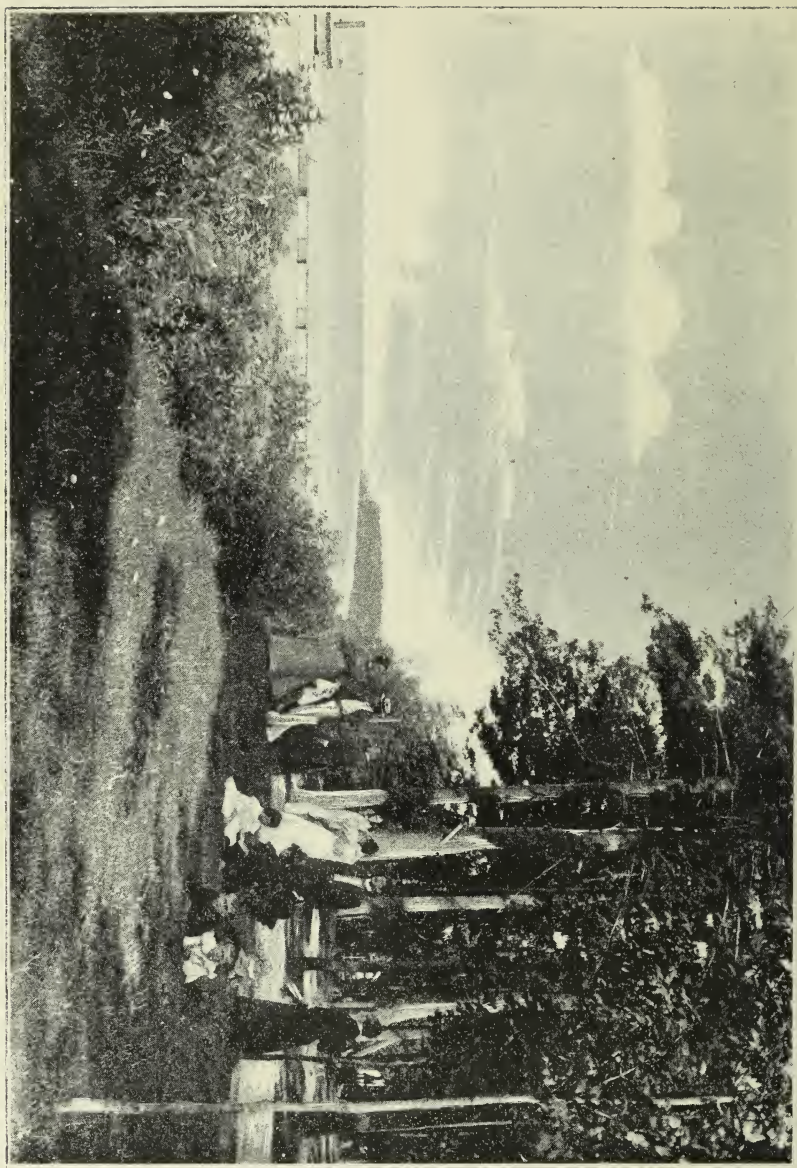




THE HOUSE AT THE FERRY



LAKE SHORE - GILBERT PARK





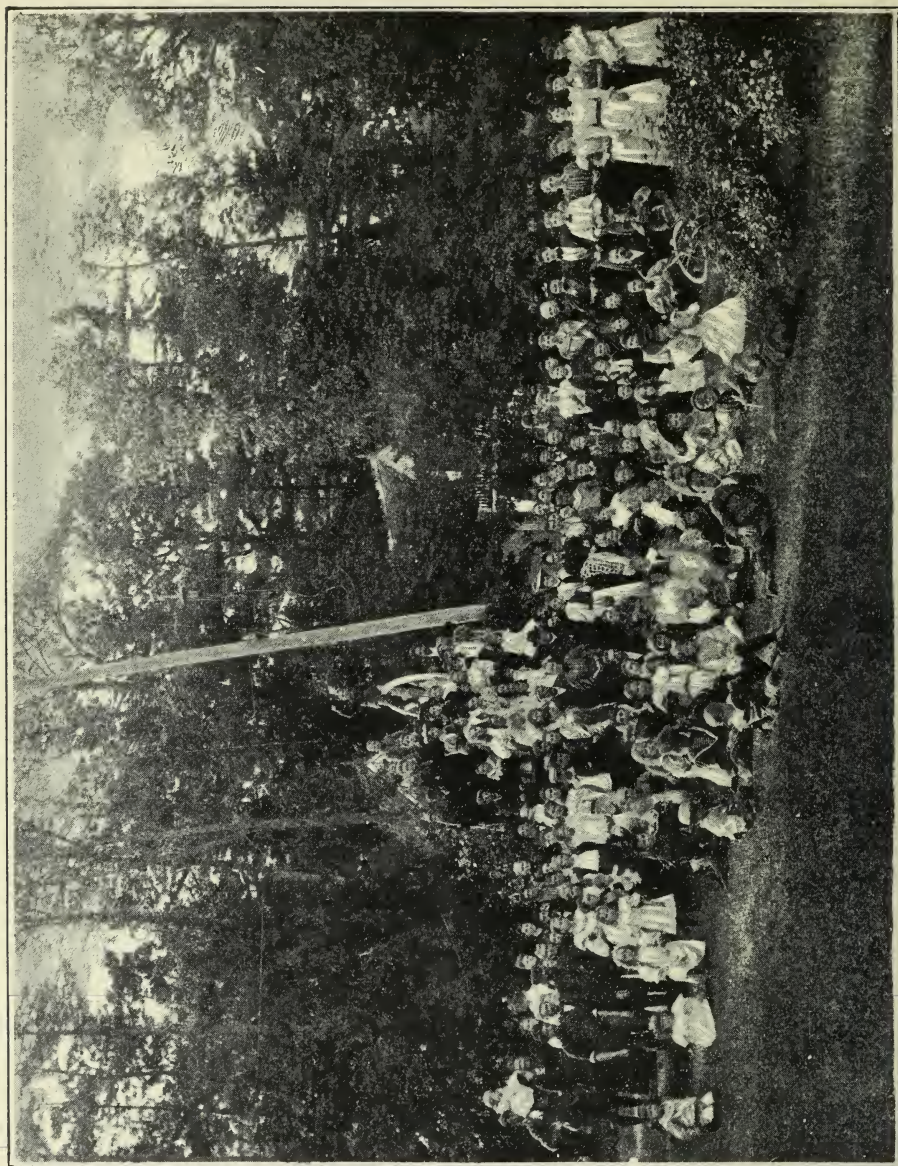
## Grimshy and its Park

Had there been no Grimshy Park in the economy of nature when she laid out this beautiful part of the earth's surface, Grimshy village might never have been heard of. As it is, however, the village is known the world over by its park. Our electric road, after leaving the Woolverton mountain road, take us right into the village and if we cannot see it from the dead level of earth we may climb, as did the artist, and view both village and park from the heights. In either case we cannot but be struck by the beauty of the spot.



ENTRANCE TO GRIMSHY PARK

Here, as at Stony Creek, a creek runs through the village, finding its source in the mountain side; its outlet in the lake a short way off. We cross the creek upon a railway bridge and are quickly landed at the famous Grimshy Park entrance. Grimshy Park hardly needs description. It has grown with the Methodist Church and has now become, with its summer course of entertainments, lectures, etc., as famous and well known as Chautauqua, the great American religious summer center. Electric lighted, with its own waterworks system,



PICNIC GROUNDS IN GRIMSEY PARK





its temple, its hotels, its tents and many cottages, the park is indeed an ideal idling place. Its entrance suggests rest and cooling shade; the park itself more than sustains the impression the entrance gives.

For benefit of the traveller the following table of passenger rates has been printed:

#### BOOK RATES AND CONDITIONS:

Four miles, unlimited for family	\$40.00
One person only	5.00

Single and return tickets are sold at stations or on the cars, and return tickets at single fare are issued on Sundays and holidays. No reduced fare is sold under 10 cents.



#### FROM VILLAGE SQUARE

From the Village Square to the Electric Railway Station, and the fare is as follows:—

Family, unlimited	\$40.00	Combined for family
One person only	5.00	
One person only	2.00	Individual

#### FROM HAMILTON TO WINONA PARK.

Family, unlimited	\$40.00	Combined for family
One person only	5.00	
One person only	2.00	Individual

Family rates are available for parents, grandparents, and one or more children, and single rates for one person only. Family rates are available for parents, grandparents, and one or more children, and single rates for one person only.





BEAMSVILLE QUARRIES

## Beamsville and its Quarries

But to finish our trip we must hurry away even from Grimsby Park and hasten on to the term-

mus of our line - Beamsville. Do not imagine we are away from the fruit region, however, for still it is fruit all the way to the end. Beamsville, nevertheless, depends not upon fruit for her prominence. Her's is a less aesthetic industry. While we are waiting for the next car back we have time to investigate. Here it is that the immense stone quarrying business of Wm. Gibson, M. P., is carried on. For years the great blocks of building stone have been carefully gathered from their places in the earth's foundation here and sent all over the Dominion. They are to be found in the great canals, in bridge foundations, in tunnels and in buildings everywhere, and still the supply is practically unlimited. It is Beamsville's most important industry. We will leave the men at work and board our car at the neat and well built station to return to the city, well pleased, no doubt, with the trip through the Garden of Canada, and carrying with us a much better idea of its greatness than we ever had before.

L. E. W.



BEAMSVILLE QUARRIES

# HAMILTON GRIMSBY AND BEAMSVILLE ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY

